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July 10, 1776. NUMB. 2481.

The PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

Containing the Freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

A DECLARATION

By the REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS assembled.

WHEN, in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies, and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

He has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused, for a long Time after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their Exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and Convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

He has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harrass our People, and eat out their Substance.

He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the Consent of our Legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.

He is, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the Works of Death, Desolation and Tyranny, already begun with Circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely parallel'd in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

He has constrained our Fellow-Citizens, taken captive on the high Seas, to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare is an undistinguished Destruction of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions.

In every Stage of these Oppressions we have petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every Act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

Nor have we been wanting in Attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time of Attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace, Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great-Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And for the Support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

Signed by Order and in Behalf of the Congress,

Attest. JOHN HANCOCK, President.

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

JUST PUBLISHED, AND TO BE SOLD BY HALL AND SELLERS, At the NEW PRINTING-OFFICE, in MARKET-STREET,

(Price Two Pounds Seven Shillings)

THE ACTS of ASSEMBLY

Of the PROVINCE of PENNSYLVANIA, Carefully compared with the Originals.

AND AN APPENDIX,

Containing such Acts, and Parts of Acts, relating to Property, as are expired, altered or repealed.

TOGETHER WITH

The Royal, Proprietary, City and Borough CHARTERS; AND THE

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THE genuine PRINCIPLES of the ancient SAXON, or ENGLISH CONSTITUTION. Carefully collected from the best Authorities; with some Observations on their peculiar Fitness for the United Colonies in general, and Pennsylvania in particular. By DEMOPHILUS.

All human Constitutions are subject to Corruption, and mankind, unless they are *timely reminded* by reducing them to their first Principles. SIDNEY.

Where Annual Election ends, Tyranny begins. HISTORICAL ESSAYS.

N. B. All the New Pamphlets may be had as fast *Bell's.*

July 1, 1776.

WHEREAS an Advertisement, addressed to the Public, appeared in the Gazette some time past, signed Thomas Tinney, requesting the Favour of the Public to call at the Old Treasure Ferry, where he now lives, and asserting that the distance of the distance between the Old and New Ferry is more than a mile in favour of the Old, wherein the true difference, on a fair survey, is no more than half a mile and forty rods, and as the subscriber hath lately come to the New Ferry, and provided a more commodious Boat than has ever been hereafter at either Ferry, as well as being the sole mode of lowering the Ferriage more than one-third of the former price, which is a very great saving to the public, he flatters himself he will be indulged with their custom, which he will endeavour to merit by his particular care and attention, and is the public's most obliged humble servant, THOMAS HARVEY.

Just published, and to be sold by JOHN DUNLAP, *in Market-Street, Philadelphia,*

OBSERVATIONS ON THE

Nature of CIVIL LIBERTY, the Principles of GOVERNMENT, and the Justice and Policy of the WAR with AMERICA.

To which is added,

AN APPENDIX, containing a State of the National Debt, an estimate of the money drawn from the Public by the taxes, and an account of the National Income and Expenditure since the last War.

Hinc mihi cives; non Hostem, subiectaque iuribus ..... Pectora Turci habui. VIRG.

By RICHARD PRICE, D.D. F.R.S.

*** This learned, judicious and liberal author has the thanks of the Common Council, and the Freedom of the City of London presented to him in a gold box, for this his much admired most excellent pamphlet on Civil Liberty—And for which he also deserves the united thanks of America.

July 2, 1776.

SEVEN POUNDS Reward.

RUN away, last Sunday night, from the subscriber, living in Chester county, the two following servants, viz. *Edward Gray*, about 5 feet 6 inches high, pock-fretted, straight black hair, about 26 years of age, says he was born in London, and served his time with William Hicklin, in New-Castle county, understands all sorts of plantation work, and says he worked at the Miller's business two years with one Reynolds, in Nottingham; had on, when he went away, white country linen shirt and trowsers, new coat and jacket, and a leather apron; took with him a scythe and hangings: Said *Gray*, was bailed out of gaol by the subscriber, and for my security indented himself to me; it is hoped that every honest person will endeavour to apprehend said *Gray*, not for the reward but in order to bring him to justice. The other, named *John Dillis*, about 25 years of age, born in New-England, a stout well built fellow, about 5 feet 10 or 11 inches high, with dirty coloured hair, his foot turns wide apart; says he belongs to the Row-galleys, and has been seen about Port-Penn; had on, when he went away, white shirt and trowsers, a red under jacket, without sleeves, no shoes nor stockings; he is fond of strong drink and company, and a very great liar: Whoever takes up the said runaways, and secures them, so as the subscriber gets them again, shall have *Five Pounds* for *Gray*, and *Forty-Shillings* for *Dillis*, and reasonable charges for *Dillis*, paid by WILLIAM KERLIN.

N. B. Dillis ran away the 1st of June.

Chester, July 2, 1776.

BY virtue of a writ to me directed, will be exposed to sale, on the premises, on Tuesday, the 30th day of July inst. at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, two certain tracts or parcels of land, situate in Macungie township, in the county of Northampton, one of them bounded by the lands of Reuben Haines, Henry Pechh and John Fogle, and containing 207 acres, whereon are a stone tenement and log tenement, a large log barn, stables and other out-houses, and a considerable quantity of good meadow; and the other of the said tracts, bounded by the lands of Peter Haas and the said Haines, and containing 37 acres woodland; late the property of Henry Shade, seized and taken in execution by HENRY FULLERT, Sheriff.

STOLEN or STRAYED away, from the subscriber, living in Chanceford township, York county, Pennsylvania, the 20th of June last, a white Horse and a black Mare, the horse about 12 years old, between 13 and 14 hands high, branded on the near shoulder I. C. his mane trimmed, a long bob-tail, and is a natural pacer; had a bell on when he went away; the mare 4 years old, both trots and paces, between 14 and 15 hands high, no brand, she has a switch tail, a small star in her forehead, and wants one of her fore teeth in the upper jaw; both newly shod before, when they went away. Whoever takes up the thief, and secures said horse and mare, so as the owner may have them again, shall have Three Pounds reward, or for the horse and mare Forty Shillings, or for any of them Twenty Shillings, and reasonable charges if brought home, paid by JOHN M'MURRY.

STRAYED away, on the 23d of June, from the subscriber, living in Germantown, a fresh milch black COW, with a white head and along her back, all to no purpose, but what may be remarked is pieces of other horns nailed on the tip of hers. Whoever keeps the said cow, and gives notice, that she may be had again, shall have the reward of TEN SHILLINGS, and reasonable charges. GEORGE SHARPLESS.

TEN DOLLARS Reward.

RUN from the subscriber, living near Talbot Court-house, the 15th of last April, a dark Mulatto Slave, named HARRY, about 26 years old; he is about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, slim and strong made; he is of a mild temper, pleasant in speech, and deceptive in conversation. It is supposed that he will endeavour to pass for a freeman; he was lately seen in Kent county; had on, when seen, a country cloth jacket, new linen shirt and trowsers, and a beaver hat with one corner burnt.—The above reward will be paid if taken out of the province, or 40 miles from home, and secured in any gaol so that I may get him; Forty Shillings, if 30 miles; Thirty Shillings, if 20 miles; with reasonable travelling expences, if brought home. ALEXANDER M'CALLUM.

Lancaster Gaol, June 26, 1776.

WAS committed to my custody, the following persons, viz. *Francis Morrijon*, 28 years of age, black hair and complexion, pitted with the small-pox, says he lately resided near Doe-Run, Chester county, was for some time a private in Captain Rose's company, from whom he obtained a discharge. *Andrew Johnston*, says he resided with Lieut. Finney, when recruiting for Captain Murray, in Oxford township, Chester county, and has a discharge, which he says he obtained from the said Finney. *Four Boys*, who says he is a deserter from Frazier's company, and enlisted with Lieut. Seely, in Hanover township. *John William Percy*, who says he is a deserter to Capt. Thomas Percy, of Bucks county. And *Stephen Johnson*, who says he is a deserter to Mr. Benjamin Nicholson's. The officers and masters of the said deserters and servants, are desired to send for them, pay charges, and take them away, in 3 weeks from the date hereof, otherwise they will be discharged, on paying their fees, by PETER KINLEY, Gaoler.

A Declaration of Independence

Clipped By:

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Sun, May 26, 2013

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